

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2009, revised October 6, 2009

For High Res photos:

Jazz for Young People: http://www.jalc.org/about/2004_galleries/j4yp/index09.html

Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis:

http://www.jalc.org/about/band_photos/jlco_photos/index.htm

and http://www.jalc.org/about/2007_galleries/jlco_live/

For guest artists: <http://www.jalc.org/about/artists10a09.asp>



**CELEBRATING MARY LOU WILLIAMS CENTENNIAL WITH
CONCERTS, CLASSES, CONTEST AND CHARTS**

- **Jazz for Young People®: Who is Mary Lou Williams? - Nov. 6 & 7**
 - **Mary Lou Williams Centennial Concert with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis - Nov. 13 & 14**
- ***Are You The Next Mary Lou Williams? Contest - Deadline Oct. 14***
 - **Swing University - Mondays, Jan. 11-Feb. 8**
- **Mary Lou Williams Music Through *Essentially Ellington* - Available now**

Who/What/When/Where:

Celebrating the 100th birthday of one of the most influential women in jazz, Jazz at Lincoln Center will feature the music of Mary Lou Williams in a variety of ways: 1) student and family concerts hosted by Wynton Marsalis, 2) concerts with Geri Allen and Geoffrey Keezer, and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis, 3) a contest in search of the next Mary Lou Williams, 4) a Swing University class on her life and music and 5) distribution of three Mary Lou Williams' charts to high schools across the North America through the *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program.

Jazz for Young People: Who is Mary Lou Williams?

Kicking off the popular Jazz for Young People concert series of the 2009-10 season, host **Wynton Marsalis** and the **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra** demonstrate for parents and children, as well as NYC school groups, alike how this leading lady of jazz created a sum of musical moods that fully reflected the spectrum of jazz. Recommended for ages 6 and older. For more information, visit jalc.org/jfyp.

Friday November 6, 2009 – For school groups only, call 212.258.9786 for more information.

Saturday November 7, 2009 – For families, see “How” section for ticket information.
Rose Theater, Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, Broadway at 60th Street, New York, NY
1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
Tickets are \$12, \$20, \$28

Mary Lou Williams Centennial

From her breakthrough works as an arranger of the swing era with Andy Kirk, to her ambitious extended works like *Zodiac Suite*, Mary Lou Williams’ music influenced generations of musicians. To celebrate Mary Lou Williams’ legacy, two modern interpreters, pianists **Geri Allen** and **Geoffrey Keezer**, will join the **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra** with **Wynton Marsalis** in a concert of Williams’ works. The concert will also be hosted by tennis legend **Billie Jean King**. For more information, visit jalc.org/concerts/details309a.asp?EventID=2046.

Friday November 13 & Saturday November 14, 2009
Rose Theater, Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, Broadway at 60th Street, New York, NY
8 p.m. with pre-concert lectures nightly at 7p.m. Pre-concert lectures are free for ticketholders.
Tickets are \$10, \$30, \$50, \$75, \$95 or \$120.

Are You the Next Mary Lou Williams? Contest

In honor of Mary Lou Williams, Jazz at Lincoln Center is searching the country for the next young, talented female jazz musician. Female pianists, age 15 or under, are encouraged to submit a video of a selected Williams’ tune, for a chance to perform with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis as part of the Jazz for Young People concert, *Who is Mary Lou Williams?* Deadline for submissions is October 14, 2009. For more information, visit jalc.org/marylou.

Swing University: Mary Lou Williams with Father Peter O’Brien

Mary Lou Williams’ manager and spiritual guide later in life, Father Peter O’Brien, teaches about the life and music of one of the primary pianists, arrangers and composer in jazz history. For more information, visit jalc.org/swingu.
Mondays: January 11, 25, February 1 & 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Program Distributes Mary Lou Williams’ Music

As part of the *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program, Jazz at Lincoln Center will be distributing up to 4,500 charts of newly published Mary Lou Williams’ music to high schools across North America. These charts include “New Musical Express,” “Roll ‘Em” and “Walkin’ and Swingin’.” The program will culminate in the annual *Essentially Ellington* Competition & Festival on Williams’ birthday, May 8, 2010. For more information, visit essentiallyellington.org.

How:

Tickets for **Jazz for Young People** family concert and the **Mary Lou Williams Centennial concert** can be purchased through jalc.org or CenterCharge at 212-721-6500, open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets can also be purchased at the Jazz at Lincoln Center Box Office, located on Broadway at 60th Street, ground floor.

Hot Seats, \$10 seats for each Rose Theater performance (excluding Jazz For Young People® concerts), are available for purchase to the general public on the Wednesday of each performance week. Subject to availability. Hot Seats are available only by walk up at the box office.

To sign up for **Swing University** visit jalc.org/swingu or call 212.258.9786.

To become a member of the **Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Program**, visit essentiallyellington.org

To learn more about Williams and all of the **Nesuhi Ertegun Jazz Hall of Fame** members, visit jalc.org/halloffame.

For a full schedule of Jazz at Lincoln Center's **2009-10 season events**, go to: jalc.org.

Visit Jazz at Lincoln Center's **YouTube** page: youtube.com/jazzatlincolncenter and become a fan on **Facebook**: facebook.com/jazzatlincolncenter

Sponsorship:

Jazz at Lincoln Center proudly acknowledges its major corporate partners: Bank of America, BET J, Bloomberg, Brooks Brothers, The Coca-Cola Company, Entergy, Sirius XM Radio.

MasterCard is the preferred card of Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Brooks Brothers is the official clothier of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis.

Time Out New York Kids is the official media partner of the 2009-10 Jazz for Young People concert series.

Jazz at Lincoln Center gratefully acknowledges The Irene Diamond Fund for its major support of programming in the Irene Diamond Education Center.

WNYC is the official media partner for the Swing University 2009-10 season.

Founding leadership support for the *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program is provided by The Jack and Susan Rudin Educational and Scholarship Fund. Major support is provided by the Surdna Foundation, The Irene Diamond Fund, the United States Congress, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Alfred and Gail Engelberg.

Additional support is provided by the Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, The Heckscher Foundation for Children, The Charles Evans Hughes Memorial Foundation, The Mericos Foundation, The New York Times Company Foundation, and other generous funders.

For more information:

Bridget Wilson
Associate • Public Relations
Phone 212.258.9868
Email bwilson@jalc.org

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